

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 DJIBOU 00265 300814Z  
ACTION ORM-02

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 EUR-12 NEA-10 IO-13 ISO-00 DHA-02  
ACDA-07 AID-05 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-07  
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15  
USIA-06 SCA-01 OES-07 /116 W  
-----015217 300820Z /23

R 300500Z JUL 77  
FM AMEMBASSY DJIBOUTI  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 176  
INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA  
AMEMBASSY CAIRO  
AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM  
AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO  
AMEMBASSY JIDDA  
92AMEMBASSY PARIS 71  
USMISSION GENEVA  
9USUN NEW YORBH 32  
COMIDEASTFOR

C O N F I D E N T I A L DJIBOUTI 0265

E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: SREF, DPIP, MILI DJ ET SO  
SUBJECT: POSSIBILITY OF MAJOR REFUGEE INFLUX TO DJIBOUTI

1. DURING RECENT VISIT TO DJIBOUTI OF JACQUES CUENOD, DEPUTY DIRECTOR  
OF ASSISTANCE, UNHCR IN GENEVA, HE PROVIDED OPPORTUNITY TO VISIT LOCA  
TIONS  
OF MAJOR REFUGEE CONCENTRATIONS IN DJIBOUTI AT DIKHIL AND ALI SABIEH

.  
MOST OF THE REFUGEES (NUMBERING ABOUT 2,500 AT EACH LOCATION) HAVE  
BEEN IN DJIBOUTI FOR AWHILE. THEY ARE ABOUT EQUALLY DIVIDED BETWEEN  
ISSAS WHO HAVE COME DOWN FROM THE DIRE DAWA AREA AND AFARS WHO CAME  
OUT OF ETHIOPIA WITH ALI MIRAH.

2. THE FIGHTING IN THE DIRSUDAWA AREA HAS ARED TO A RECENT SPURT IN  
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THE NUMBER OF ISSA REFUGEES, AND CUENOD WAS TOLD THAT THE NUMBER OF  
ARRIVALS IS INCREASING AT A RATE OF ABOUT 100 PER DAY. CUENOD WAS TOLD

BY THE REFUGEES THAT THEIR WOMEN AND CHILDRED ARE BEING HIDDEN  
IN THE MOUNTAINS DURING THE PERIOD OF THE DJIBOUTI HOT SEASON.  
HOWEVER, IN LATE SEPTEMBER AND IN OCTOBER WHEN THE HEAT BREAKS,  
THERE COULD AN INFLUX OF 50 TO 100,000 REFUGESS COMING OUT OF THE WAR

ZONE OF ETHIOPIA.

3. THE U.S. MISSION, GENEVA, WILL PROBABLY HAVE ACCESS TO CUENOD'S MISSION REPORT AND CAN REVIEW RECOMMENDATIONS MADE BY HIM ON THE POSSIBILITY OF AN AVALANCHE OF REFUGEES COMING OUT OF ETHIOPIA. THE DEPARTMENT SHOULD IMMEDIATELY STUDY THE PROSPECTS OF PROVIDING EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE TO SUCH A HOARD WHICH COULD EASILY LEAD TO A COMPLETE BREAKDOWN OF GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS IN DJIBOUTI. IT IS DIFFICULT

TO SEE HOW THE GOVERNMENT COULD SURVIVE SUCH A COLLOSAL PRESSURE ON ITS RESOURCES WITHOUT SWIFT INTERNATIONAL ASSISTANCE. A COLLAPSE OF AUTHORITY IN DJIBOUTI WOULD PROBABLY LEAD BOTH ETHIOPIA AND SOMALIA

TO COME TO DJIBOUTI'S "RESCUE" WITH A CONSEQUENT ENLARGEMENT OF THE PRESENT CONFLICTS IN THE HORN.VXM  
CLARKE

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** REFUGEES, POLITICAL SITUATION  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
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**Decaption Date:** 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1977DJIBOU00265  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
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**Litigation Codes:**  
**Litigation History:**  
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**Office:** ACTION ORM  
**Original Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
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**Previous Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**SAS ID:** 1750503  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** POSSIBILITY OF MAJOR REFUGEE INFLUX TO DJIBOUTI  
**TAGS:** SREF, PINS, MILI, DJ, ET, SO  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
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**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
22 May 2009  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009